

The MALDEN Act

Making Aid for Local Disasters Equal Now

— Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers WA05 —

In September 2020, the Babb Road Fire ripped through Whitman County, leaving total devastation in its wake. The town of Malden was destroyed - the city hall, post office, and fire station - all burned to the ground. Nearly one year later, families are still struggling to rebuild their homes and piece their lives back together.

DISASTER DECLARATION DEADLINE

The MALDEN Act requires the president to approve or deny a disaster declaration request within 30 days. If the request is not denied within 30 days, then it is approved.

SUPPORT FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES

This legislation ensures rural communities receive recovery assistance by requiring FEMA to work in coordination with state leadership to provide guidance to local emergency managers on developing a recovery team. They must also assist in identifying short and long-term recovery resources, including resources to prevent secondary natural disasters like flooding, mudslides and rockslides.

ASSISTANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES

Finally, the bill instructs FEMA to work with the state emergency management agency to make disaster case workers available for rural communities in the event that a request for Individual Assistance is made and denied.

CONGRESSWOMAN

Cathy McMorris
RODGERS

PROUDLY REPRESENTING EASTERN WASHINGTON